



UTAH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
a division of
Department of Natural Resources

TO: Utah Geothermal Working Group

FROM: Robert Blackett, Utah GWG Coordinator

DATE: February 7, 2003

SUBJECT: Organizational Meeting of the Utah Geothermal Working Group

The Utah Geological Survey and the Utah Energy Office are convening a Utah Geothermal Working Group (UGWG) in support of the U.S. Department of Energy's *GeoPowering The West* initiative. The purpose of UGWG is to promote the continued development of geothermal resources in Utah. Because of your involvement with geothermal energy, particularly here in Utah, we invite you to participate as a member of UGWG. The first organizational meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, March 4, 2003 at the Utah Department of Natural Resources in Salt Lake City (1594 W North Temple). The meeting may include a luncheon. Background information and a preliminary agenda are included at the end of this message. A complete announcement and final agenda will be forthcoming.

Participants will include a wide variety of geothermal experts and users, and we hope that each periodic meeting will feature a speaker on some aspect of geothermal-related development. Meetings will not focus on a single topic, but will cover a wide variety of subjects for promotion of Utah's geothermal resources. We envisage the first meeting to last 2 to 3 hours (maximum), and for future meetings to be about every 6 months. The value, frequency and topics of future meetings can be discussed at this first meeting.

We hope you will accept our invitation to attend the March 4, 2003 organizational meeting and help us address the important issues for geothermal energy investment within Utah.

Please RSVP to: Robert Blackett, Utah Geological Survey at (435) 865-8139, or email at blackett@suu.edu or robertblackett@utah.gov. Please also review the attached mailing list and suggest additional people who might be interested in attending. Feel free to forward this email and invite additional people.

Background

We believe that geothermal energy technology can help meet Utah's future energy needs and offers potential economic benefits to both rural and urban residents. The goals of UGWG will be to (1) focus on needs, barriers, and opportunities in Utah to help facilitate future geothermal development (2) provide public outreach with a legislative component, (2) gain access to land with geothermal resources, (3) discover and develop markets for geothermal energy, (4) conceptualize projects with attractive returns on investment, and (5) review geothermal

potential vs. utilization. We will consider a wide range of applications including: electric power generation, direct-use technology, and ground-source heat pumps.

The Utah Legislature will address a Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard, or RPS, during the 2003 legislative session. As presently envisioned, the RPS would require that 10 percent of all electricity generated in and then consumed in Utah be from renewable sources by the year 2013. If properly promoted, we believe that geothermal energy could be an important part of Utah's renewable energy mix in the future.

Presently, Utah has two geothermal power facilities and 13 areas where geothermal fluids are used commercially for space heating of greenhouses, aquaculture, recreation, and balneology. In addition, there are many sites where ground-coupled heat pumps provide year-round space conditioning. Since recent inventories show that nearly 1,000 thermal springs and wells are present in Utah, we believe that geothermal resources in the state are underutilized, due chiefly to the relatively low cost of competing fossil fuels. Other factors include high front-end development risks coupled with a lack of reservoir knowledge inherent with under-explored geothermal systems. Increased use of these resources could be realized, however, under the right economic and regulatory incentives, along with adequate knowledge of reservoir capacities.

Preliminary Agenda

Lunch (optional, ~ \$10)

Introductions

- Formation of the UGWG, Blackett/Allis
- Current geothermal projects at UGS & UEO, Blackett/Watson/Sowards
- Legislative status of Utah's Renewable Portfolio Standard, Watson

Facilitated group discussions

- Utah geothermal project activity update
- Impediments to geothermal development in Utah
- Future of the Utah Geothermal Working Group

Wrap-up

Invitation List

Last Name	First Name	Organization
Adams	Michael	Energy & Geoscience Inst.
Allen	David	Allan Plant Company
Allis	Rick	Utah Geological Survey

Alt	Lowell	Division of Public Utilities
Anderson	Ken	Pah Tempe Resort
Austin	Steve	Intermountain Geothermal Co.
Blackett	Robert	Utah Geological Survey
Bloomquist	Gordon	Washington State University
Chapman	David	University of Utah
Curlett	Harry	Deep Heat Energy Corp.
Forrest	Ron	Intermountain Geothermal Co.
Fouts	James	Bureau of Land Management
Gordon	William	Milgro Newcastle, Inc.
Hall	David	Novatek
Henricks	Robert	Bureau of Land Management
Hulen	Jeffrey	Energy & Geoscience Inst.
Huttrer	Gerald	Geothermal Management Co.
Jones	Kent	Utah Division of Water Rights
Kaleel	Jack	Oasis Industries, Inc.
Kaptilov	Platon	Pacificorp
Katz	Lewis	Utah Geophysical, Inc.
Laney	Patrick	INEEL
Langton	Bill	Deep Heat Energy Corp.
Larsen	Garth	Blundell Geothermal Plant
Larsen	Rick	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Lorah	Jessica	UCEA
Lutz	Susan	Energy & Geoscience Inst.
Mayo	Alan	Brigham Young University
Moore	Joseph	Energy & Geoscience Inst.
Moore	Shuman	Advanced Thermal Systems
Nash	Gregory	Energy & Geoscience Inst.
Neilson	Robert	INEEL
Nelson	Linda	Bonneville SeaBase
Nielson	Dennis	DOSECC
Palomo	Steve	NREL
Price	Keith	Hi Tech Fisheries
Rafferty	Kevin	OIT Geo-Heat Center
Renner	Joel	INEEL
Rose	Peter	Energy & Geoscience Inst.
Ross	Howard	Consultant
Simons	Craig	Waterworld Divers
Smith	Cary	Sound Geothermal Corporation
Snow	Gordon	Utah House of Representatives
Sowards	Glade	Utah Energy Office
Thurgood	Rand	Pacificorp
Van de Putte	Todd	CALENERGY Operating Corp.
Wannamaker	Phil	Energy & Geoscience Inst.
Watson	Christine	Utah Energy Office
White	Ila	Belmont Hot Springs Resort